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JPRS L/9336

8 October 1980

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

{FOUO 42/80}



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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WORLDWIDE REPORT
NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
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HONG KONG

WAR AGAINST DRUGS BEING WON, COMMITTEE SAYS

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 6 Sep 80 p 8

[Text]

Hongkong has become the only area in the world that can boast a dramatic decrease in its drugs problem.

And an encouraging aspect of the decline is that fewer young people in the Colony are starting to use drugs, the chairman of Action Committee Against Narcotics's preventive education and publicity sub-committee Mr Karl Stumpf, said yesterday.

Mr Stumpf was announcing details of an intensive month-long anti-drug campaign to be held in Central and Western District.

He told a press conference that behind the anti-drug success story was the work of many devoted people in the community.

In 1952, there were an estimated 200,000 narcotics addicts in the Colony. The number has fallen to fewer

than 40,000 today, said Mr Stumpf.

"In 1952, no one wanted to mention drugs here because it was a shameful subject."

"But nowadays, we can not only talk about it openly but we can act successfully on the problem," he said.

The acting Commissioner for Narcotics, Mr Bowen Leung, said among the drug addicts here, 14,000 are undergoing a daily rehabilitation programme.

Rocketing drug prices over the last six years had made addicts give up their habit, he said.

He said the Commission was confident that drug abuse will be completely eliminated from the community in the near future.

The new anti-drug campaign will be aimed at the

10,000 residents of Central and Western District.

The month-long campaign, the largest to be held in the district, will be inaugurated by the ACAN chairman, Sir Albert Rodrigues, at Edinburgh Place on September 14.

This will be the first of three district anti-drug campaigns to be started by ACAN this year. The two others will be held in Yuen Long and Yau Ma Tei between next month and December.

The objectives of the campaigns are to appeal for community involvement and support in the fight against drug abuse, to dissuade people from ever experimenting with drugs and to urge drug addicts to come forward for treatment.

CSO: 5320

HONG KONG

BRIEFS

AIRPORT HEROIN HAUL--Customs officers at Kai Tak airport arrested a Malaysian man yesterday after finding 450 grams of heroin base worth \$600,000. The drugs were concealed in the visitor's underwear, officers said. /Text/
/Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 21 Aug 80 p 9/

HEROIN TRAFFICKING ARREST--A pregnant woman was arrested at her Taikoktsui flat yesterday for alleged trafficking in narcotics. The Special Duty Squad of the Mongkok police station seized a quantity of drugs, including heroin, worth about \$150,000 at the 14th floor flat in Tong Mei Road. /Text/
/Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 30 Aug 80 p 17/

HEROIN FROM BANGKOK--Two factory workers were arrested at Kai Tak yesterday following the seizure of 910 grams of suspected heroin base from the false bottoms of their travelling bags. Customs officers said the two men, aged 33 and 37, arrived in Hongkong from Kuala Lumpur at 4 pm and the drugs were discovered during a routine inspection. When converted into No 3 heroin, the drugs would have had a retail value of \$1.2 million. Customs officers said the two flew to Bangkok on Tuesday and went to Kuala Lumpur on Thursday in an attempt to avoid the suspicion of customs officers. /Excerpt/
/Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 31 Aug 80 p 17/

CANNABIS SEIZURE--Customs officers arrested a bar girl, her brother and a European entertainer on Wednesday following the seizure of cannabis worth about \$25,000. The drugs were concealed inside a doll, mailed from Bangkok, which was seized at the General Post Office. A man was arrested when he went to the post office to collect it and subsequent inquiries led to the arrest of the woman and the entertainer. /Excerpt/
/Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 29 Aug 80 p 13/

CS0: 5320

INDONESIA

DRUG ABUSE FOCUS FOR INDONESIAN POLICE OPERATIONS

Arrests in Riau

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 29 Jul 80 p 6

[Text] Pekanbaru, Monday. An accomplice of a narcotics distributor syndicate, (morphine prohibited), "YB," 24 years old, managed to receive 21,650 milligrams of smuggled morphine from abroad. He was arrested by a patrol of the Indonesian Police Commando Section, Tanjung Balai Karimum, island of Riau.

With the help of some fishermen, the police were able to capture "YB" who had just received a package of the hard type morphine, weighing 21,650 milligrams. This happened on a region of the beach that borders the neighboring state province.

"YB" confessed that this operation had been carried out a number of times but that it was restricted to distribution.

Until now, "YB" has not yet offered a complete explanation of the operation and the morphine smuggling network referred to earlier. The police are continuing to investigate and check into the morphine smuggling syndicate.

Opium House Raided

Several leaders of the community in the area of Rokan Street, Pekanbaru, related an incident that occurred at the beginning of the Ramadan Fast. The Regional Command IV, Riau, successfully executed a raid and forced open cases of opium for smoking in one of the houses in that district. The city police were not giving any further clarification on the matter. They hope to round up the gang that is bringing in the opium to Kotamadya, Pekanbaru. Sumitro, Danresta 401 (Commander of area 401), said that the owner of the house has been arrested along with several opium smokers (mainly foreign nationals), who are now on parole and are being questioned.

In checking further the Indonesian State Police has learned that there is a tendency for the opium smokers to be suffering from mental disturbances and are over 40 years old.

It is disturbing, that in the past several months in the area of Riau, cases like this have been discovered frequently.

Sumitro said that the Indonesian State Police are aware of the problem, and are waiting for the appropriate moment to break open this narcotics smuggling network.

Morphine Users Arrested

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 5 Jul 80 p 3

[Text] Three morphine users who were in the midst of smoking and injecting morphine in their arms were caught Friday afternoon in Central Jakarta, 71 Metro by Saterse Kores (Drug Abuse Unit).

The three people who were caught are: H. Ro. Sad, age 38, former member of the Indonesian National Army, now retired; Hart Gun. alias TTW, age 21; and Rach Angg, age 40.

The police had heard about a widow who had gotten married to Rach Angg illegally. Their house was the place where morphine users frequently gathered. Friday afternoon around 1 pm, the house was indeed being used for this purpose, and it was raided.

When the police arrived at the house they found three people in a semi-comatose state. Hart Gun. and Rach Angg were [stoned] in a semi-conscious state from the effects of morphine. Hart had injected it into his arms while Rach had smoked cigarettes mixed with morphine.

H.Ro. Sad was just ready to inject himself, but startled by the raid, he immediately threw the needle away. It had already pricked the back of the palm of his hand. The injection needle was found near a small gutter and the white liquid inside the syringe was mixed with blood.

In addition to the syringe, the police also confiscated 2 doses [each equal to a pinch of salt] of morphine and a razor blade.

H.Ro. Sad said that he had only recently become involved in the drug world and was not yet strongly influenced by it, when the newspaper KOMPAS questioned him. As evidence he showed his arm, full of colorful tatooing and also several scars where the injections had been given. One of the scars was quite swollen directly over the artery, and there were several in the folds of his hands. Because of this he was preparing to inject it in the back of his hand. This mark was very visible on the left hand. His right hand showed no indication of scars.

He said he got involved in the drug world because of the tensions in his life. Often, he was not able to sleep or feel at peace because of several problems that he was facing. As an escape he took morphine. As soon as

there was a crisis in his life he would take it to forget about it, and as reality faded he became addicted. He used morphine twice a day, in the morning and afternoon or sometimes taking it in the evening. Each time, he used 2 pinches at the cost of about 1,000 rupiahs per pinch-- or as much as 1,500 rupiahs per pinch.

H.Ro Sad is a merchant, and his business is generally in Singapore and Jakarta, the profits have been fair.

According to the police, Rach Angg, another drug user, is also a morphine dealer. Consequently, those who bought it were allowed to take it in his residence.

It is known that the narcotics black market network in the Senen/Tanah Tinggi district has regular customers. The same is true for the sellers [pushers]. They do not come only from among the youth but include also some who are middle-aged.

Rehabilitation of Juvenile Addicts

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 22 Jul 80 p 3

[Text] The Department of Social Affairs has successfully rehabilitated drug addicts via the Social Centers in Jakarta.

Khusnul Khotimah Jakarta has rehabilitated 357 youths since 1973.

Imam Supardi, Director of the Department's unemployment rehabilitation, said on Monday that in addition to the Social Department's Centers, rehabilitation programs were carried out outside the centers. This system has successfully rehabilitated 42 in the DKI (Special Capital Region-Jakarta) Province and 70 youths in West Java.

The plan for 1980-81 is to rehabilitate 60 addicts from the Sumut area through the Centers and 30 outside (through families). In the DKI-Jakarta province, 60 youths will be treated in the center and 60 through the non-center system. In Jabar, 100 youths will be assisted through the non-center system and in Surabaya, 60 via the center and 60 outside the center.

F. J. Soenoko, head of the Youth Drug Addicts explained that the areas considered most disturbed at this time with the drug problem, among others are, Riau, Medan, Surabaya, Jakarta and Bali.

Tourists Involved with Narcotics

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 5 Jul 80 p 3

[Text] Yogyakarta Jul 4--Police Colonel Suharso, of the Yogyakarta Police District Command 96, confessed that along with the crime problem and traffic

violations which present difficulties in Yogyakarta, these past years a new crime has come to the fore and that is drug abuse.

In 1979-80 there were 16 people involved in drug abuse cases, all of which were dealt with in court.

While speaking to the newspaper "SH" last July, the 96 District Command emphasized the fact that false social norms from abroad have been adopted, and are responsible for the drug abuse situation.

Suharso said that the 16 people involved in the drug abuse cases were all foreigners claiming to be tourists.

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JAPAN

BRIEFS

SMUGGLING RING LEADER ARRESTED--Kobe Sept 12 KYODO--Police arrested a South Korean stimulant drug smuggling ring leader here Thursday night and confiscated 1.55 kilograms of crystallized drugs worth yen 465 million at street value. Lee Hoson, 51 [Yi Ho-Son], a company employee, of Seoul, believed to be the No 2 leader of a Korean smuggling scheme, was arrested on a street here with a paper bag containing the crystallized drugs. Lee came to Osaka from Seoul by air Wednesday and stayed at a Kobe hotel in an apparent mission to open new smuggling routes in the two western Japan cities. Lee alleged to police he kept the paper bag at another's request. However, police believe Lee met an agent in Japan at the hotel to receive the drugs. Police suspect his group has the capacity to manufacture 30 kilograms of drugs a day that is smuggled to Japan. Police also suspect Lee had planned to go to Bangkok to buy drug materials with money he would have made in Kobe by selling drugs recently in short supply before returning home. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English 12 Sep 80]

CSO: 5300

NEW ZEALAND

AIRPORT COMPUTERS TO AID IN IDENTIFYING DRUG SMUGGLERS

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 26 Aug 80 p 1

/Report by the HERALD's Wellington Bureau/

/Excerpts/ The Government has approved a \$700,000 computer system to warn authorities of suspected undesirables trying to enter New Zealand.

The Customs Department will operate the computer, which will store lists of people that customs, immigration or police officers wish to know are entering or leaving the country.

Terminals for the system will be installed at Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch airports.

Customs officers will punch the names of arriving passengers into the terminals and will be instantly alerted to any cause for suspicion.

The system aims to quickly identify suspected drug smugglers, terrorists, other criminals and prohibited immigrants.

The system, approved by the cabinet yesterday, could come in to service in about 12 months, provided there is no delay in getting equipment.

It will be similar to that run by Australia.

The New Zealand version has been dubbed Pass-for-Passenger Automatic Selection System.

CS0: 5320

NEW ZEALAND

MAJOR EFFORT PLANNED TO PREVENT EXPECTED HEROIN INFUX

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 26 Aug 80 p 16

[Excerpts] Drug traffickers are taking advantage of the political instability in Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan to make the "south-west Asian triangle" one of the major suppliers of heroin to Europe and the United States this year.

New Zealand drug enforcement agencies are watching the trend carefully in case any of the Near East supply reaches the South Pacific.

To date there has been no indication traditional local heroin supplies from the "Golden Triangle" of South-east Asia are being challenged by other sources.

And police say there have been only minimal quantities of the drug anywhere in New Zealand this year, following two poor harvests in Indo-China.

At the end of the summer the head of the Auckland drug squad, Detective Inspector B. J. Rowe, said he believed no heroin was left in New Zealand.

Last week he said the amount in the country was still virtually insignificant.

Small Hauls

"Since I moved to the drug squad in January the police throughout New Zealand have not been aware of any large-scale movement of heroin, or any importations by major traffickers."

Small amounts were being seized sporadically, but hard drug addicts generally appeared to have been forced to make do with various pills gathered from various sources.

The head of the National Drug Intelligence Bureau, Detective Senior Sergeant P. Fitzharris, said one importation to Christchurch had been discovered this year, but this had quickly dried out.

The situation might change soon, however, with an exceptionally good harvest expected from South-east Asia this summer.

Bountiful

"We understand the indications are the crop recently put in, in this area, will be very bountiful," he said. "The weather is good in the area, and the harvest is expected in December and January."

Drug intelligence agencies throughout South-east Asia and the Pacific are watching the situation in the Golden Triangle carefully.

And New Zealand police and customs officials are gearing themselves for a major effort this summer to prevent the expected increased flows of heroin into the country.

CS0: 5320

SOUTH KOREA

BRIEFS

SIX HIROPPON DEALERS ARRESTED--A special investigation team from the Seoul District Prosecution arrested six people yesterday and is searching for three others on suspicion of manufacturing billions of won worth of the stimulant drug "hiroppon" in an apartment and another place in Seoul. Public prosecutor Chong Hong-won arrested Kwon Hyok-wun, 44, living in the Taeyang Apartments in Tapsimni-dong, eastern Seoul, Kwon's wife Han Ki-suk, 38, and four others on charges of violating the Psychotropic Drug Control Law. The four others are Kwon's mother-in-law Son Sok-han, his elder brother Kwon Hyok-jin, 55, So Kwi-su, 43, and Ko Myong-su, 44. The prosecution said Kwon and his party, apart from Ko, had allegedly manufactured 24.5 kilograms of hiroppon with an underground market value of 2,450 million won since July 1977, at unit No. 50-506 of the Taeyang Apartment complex, owned by Kwon's mother-in-law. The special investigation team confiscated three kilograms of hiroppon, 800 grams of raw material for it and 33 items of hiroppon manufacturing apparatus from the apartment. Kwon's group has sold the self-made hiroppon to So Chung-sop, 40, Chang Yi-rak, 35, and Chu Kwang-ro, 38, who deals in hiroppon in Pusan, at five million won per kilogram. The prosecution is searching for the three dealers. The prosecutor said Ko had allegedly manufactured some 13.5 kilograms of hiroppon (worth 1,350 million won) at his house in Taebang-dong, southern Seoul, since March with the help of Kwon Hyokwun. [Text] [Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 26 Aug 80 p 8]

CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

MAGAZINE LINKS COCAINE TRAFFICKERS WITH JUNTA

Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese 13 Aug 80 p 36

[Text] At first the accusation that Gen Luis Garcia Meza, president of Bolivia since the military coup of last 17 July, was involved in narcotics traffic seemed somewhat exaggerated. After all, the accusation originated with Hernan Siles Suazo, the winner of the presidential elections of last June and, therefore, the politician most directly affected by the coup--naturally other than those killed or those who are in prison. A torrent of accusations of the same type, meanwhile, would come to show that Siles Suazo, since last week the leader of a picturesque "Clandestine Bolivian Government," may not be far from the truth.

The stories telling of the coup-drug connection in La Paz have increased to such a point that today in Bolivia there are those who call the "Putsch" by Garcia Meza a "cocaine coup." According to many, not only are the majority of the military involved in narcotics traffic but the coup itself was brought about to protect the interests of the powerful network of cocaine traffickers in Bolivia. In other words, the coup was carried out less to prevent the Bolivian Left from seizing power--as Garcia Meza bawled out on the day of his inauguration in the standard pretext about "international communist"--than to prevent Siles Suazo, once in power, from upsetting the applecart of the profitable operation of the traffickers, who in recent years have made of Bolivia one of the largest cocaine factories in the world.

The Role of Bolivia

The illegal trade in cocaine yields no less than \$500 million per year to a few Bolivians; more than tin, the main export product of the country and of which Bolivia is the second-ranking producer in the world. Operations are based primarily in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, the headquarters of the military and civilian groups which supported the Garcia Meza coup. The largest part of information on this business is found recorded in the Department of State in Washington, where in recent years a significant study of the role of Bolivia in the international cocaine

connection has been made. It is a role which has only grown. The Department of State discovered, for example, that the Bolivian connection became the main supplier for American addicts: from 40 to 60 percent of the nearly 30 tons of the drug which entered the United States last year came from Bolivia.

Moreover, since the July coup, American officials have been noting that a larger and larger number of Bolivians involved in cocaine traffic are today in important positions in the new government. The most mentioned name on that list is that of Col Luis Arce Gomez, minister of interior of the new government and former chief of the powerful Army Intelligence Service up to the time of the July military coup. Arce, during the time he headed that service, made efforts to torpedo the government antidrug machinery. Moreover, he had in recent years changed from a simple stooge of the traffickers to a chief of one of the many gangs of traffickers in action in the country himself. Arce, of course, is particularly sensitive when there is talk of cocaine. Last week he ordered the jailing of American correspondent Mary Helen Spooner of the FINANCIAL TIMES. The reason: she had written an article about the involvement of Arce in the traffic.

In Customs

The second person placed on the list of those involved is the new minister of education--ironically an air force colonel named Ariel Coca--involved in a shipment of 100 kilos of cocaine seized last year in Panama. And there are still other cases such as that of Col Otto Lopez, army commander in the Tarija Region, who is considered the main saboteur of previous government efforts to contain drug traffic in the area.

That is not all. There are also indications that known smugglers and traffickers are participating in operations of kidnaping political figures of the left or even members of the interim government of Lidia Gueiler, who was deposed by Garcia Meza. There is another case, for example, that of Fernando Monroy, known gangster of Santa Cruz de la Sierra. Monroy was seen in action in the attack on Palacio Quemado, the home of the Bolivian presidency, when paramilitary commandos arrested President Gueiler and a handful of ministers.

Another revealing sign of the coup-cocaine connection detected in Washington was the extreme rapidity with which traffickers or their stooges went to occupy key positions in those government sectors precisely responsible for controlling drug traffic. Jose Abraham Baptista, for example, a Santa Cruz trafficker, is considered one of the main financial backers of the Garcia Meza coup. He obtained what is probably the first prize in this race for decisive posts. No less than two relatives of his were appointed to positions of authority in Bolivian customs.

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COSTA RICA

BRIEFS

THREE COCAINE ARRESTS--The Drugs and Narcotics Bureau of the Judicial Investigation Organization has arrested three National Heredia University students for possession of cocaine. Jose Roberto and Luis Mario Mendoza, together with Maria Del Carmen Sanjines Uriarte, all Bolivians, were arrested in San Joaquin, Flores. They brought 1/4 pound of pure cocaine from La Paz, Bolivia. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Sep 80]

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

POLICE INSPECTOR NAMED AS TRAFFICKERS' CONTACT

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 28 Aug 80 Sec B p 3

[Text] The chance arrest of two Texan-Mexican brothers was the key enabling the Federal Judicial Police who set up a checkpoint on the highway leading to China, Nuevo Leon, and Montemorelos, to break up a drug trafficking ring which had been operating from San Luis Potosi to the United States.

In the information bulletin released to the news media, they announced that, while exercising surveillance on the Nuevo Leon highway, they stopped a 1975 car with Texas license plates FSZ-507, in which the brothers Juan Jose and Sixto Ibarra were riding, for inspection. In a false bottom, they were found to be carrying a marihuana shipment consisting of 18 kilograms in seven packages covered with rags and plastic.

These presumed drug traffickers were immediately taken to this town to be interrogated regarding their "contacts" involving the drug.

The individuals in custody confessed that they had gone to Matehuala, San Luis Potosi, where they purchased the grass for 1,500 pesos per pound, and resold it in the United States for \$200.

They explained that, for this purpose, they had a contact, namely the inspector of the municipal police in the aforementioned Potosi town, whom they knew by the name of Victoriano Salinas Pena, or Luis Antonio Salinas.

By telex, a request was made to the Federal Judicial Police detailed in San Luis Potosi, for the arrest of the police commander, so that he might be sent to Nuevo Laredo and the pertinent proceedings could be carried out. It was also claimed that this former policeman would disclose the identity of his accomplices, so that the international trafficking ring could be disbanded.



Sixto Ibarra is the other resident of Mission, Texas, who, like his brother, said that the business had netted him very good dividends.

One of the brothers, Juan Jose Ibarra, confessed that the grass confiscated from them had been purchased in Matehuela, San Luis Potosi.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

CORRUPT FEDERAL POLICE COMMANDER REPLACED

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 3 Sep 80 Sec B p 2

[Text] Between 1400 and 1500 hours yesterday, Mr Jose Isordia Jimenez, who has come from the state of Sinaloa to replace Manuel Espindola Martinez, was sworn in as commander of Zone 2 for the Federal Judicial Police.

Isordia Jimenez, who was promoted to the rank of first commander a year and 6 months ago, was detailed as group chief in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, served subsequently in the state of Guerrero and has been commander in the state of Nayarit for 8 months.

The Office of the Attorney General of the Nation, upon noting his high degree of discipline and remarkable dedication to the work assigned him to combat the drug traffic, appointed him to that position, and is now offering him an opportunity to demonstrate his great ability in this border port, which has been described as the international bridge for the drug traffic to the United States.

The coordinator of the Office of the Attorney General of the Nation in this area, Carlos Aguilar Garza, said that this individual has had an unsullied record in his service file, and that there is nothing shady about his police career.

The Change Was Good

Some of the citizens were very happy to receive the news of the departure of Espindola Martinez, who was described as the commander with the most connections with the smugglers of illegal emigrants, traffickers and other criminals.

Carlos Aguilar Garza also announced that Espindola Martinez would be assigned to the state of Nayarit, the former location of Isordia Jimenez, who is expected to combat the underworld of drug trafficking and smuggling of illegal emigrants which is operating in a commonplace manner.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED AT AIRPORT

Ciudad Juarez EL FRONTERIZO in Spanish 3 Sep 80 Sec A p 10

[Text] Mexico City, 2 Sep--Yesterday, at the Mexico City international airport, Federal Judicial Police agents arrested the Americans Rosetta Bravo Zimmerman and Burton Kenneth Zimmerman, when they attempted to bring into our country a cocaine shipment valued at 40 million pesos. The drug traffickers were carrying the "powder" in 10 plastic bags attached to their belts.

The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic announced that the agents who dealt the blow, one of the most significant in recent years, noticed that the Zimmermans, who were traveling on Aeroperu flight 622 from Lima, were very nervous when the customs inspection was being made.

The Attorney General's Office added that the agents intervened in the inspection. The Americans were not carrying anything at all in their luggage that would indicate them as being smugglers. However, when a body search was made, the cocaine was discovered immediately.

In making their statement, the drug traffickers said that they had purchased the drug in Peru for about \$200,000, and that it was later to be sold in Los Angeles, California, among the black and Chicano population.

With the proceeds from the sale, they had planned to go to Honolulu in order to open new markets, because their "contact in Peru is one of the biggest producers on the continent." The Attorney General's Office did not divulge the name of their "contact."

Armando Martinez, the Federal Judicial Police commander who participated directly in the investigation, said that the cocaine shipment weighed approximately 2 kilograms, and "was of the best quality."

Commander Martinez added that they were carrying the plastic bags containing the "snow" on belts attached very firmly with elastic bands.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

INDUSTRIAL INHALANT ADDICTION SEEN RISING IN CULIACAN

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 7 Sep 80 p 1

[Text] Drug addiction is still a serious social problem in Culiacan, but now there is a slight change: addiction to heroin and hard drugs has declined, but there has been an alarming increase in addiction to industrial inhalants, particularly among children from 8 or 9 years old to 15 years of age or older.

This comment was made yesterday by Dr Joaquin Loredo Hill, head of the health center, who said that the need for legislation to control the sale of resistol and other industrial inhalants has become a real imperative, in view of the sudden rise in this type of drug dependence.

Upon being interviewed on the subject by EL SOL DE SINALOA, Dr Loredo Hill remarked that many factors have caused a decline in the number of addicts to heroin and hard drugs, and an increase in those addicted to the inhalants.

Among them, he mentioned Operation Condor, which has resulted in a notable drop in the planting and cultivation of marihuana and poppies: that, understandably, has brought about a large hike in the price of these drugs, which are out of reach of many addicts; whereas, on the other hand, the great ease with which the inhalants may be purchased, in any store selling such products, has caused them to be bought by a constantly increasing number of young people, entailing greater danger, owing to the irreversible brain damage resulting from this kind of toxic product.

The head of the health center said that, although it is difficult to ascertain the percentage of the young population in this capital addicted to some type of stimulant, it can indeed be claimed that the problem involves virtually all strata of the populace.

He noted: "Some, because they have the means for obtaining the drugs, and others because, through drugs, they attempt to escape from the poverty and alienation in which they are living. Drug addiction is still a real social problem, despite the efforts made by the health sector."

The subject of the interview also reported that this institution has been concerned with publicizing among parents, through brief bulletins written in a manner understandable to the bulk of the population, all the physical signs and mental changes which occur in someone addicted to drugs so that they may recognize them at any time in their children or associates, and seek the aid of medical institutions to help rehabilitate the addict.

2909
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

DESTRUCTION OF POPPY, MARIHUANA PLANTATIONS REPORTED

Culiacan EL SOL DE SINALOA in Spanish 3 Sep 80 pp 1, 6

[Text] In 2 days of activity, the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic fumigated 184 poppy plantations in the Western Sierra Madre within the state of Chihuahua, raising the number from only 11 plantations fumigated during August, and destroying plants as tall as 15 centimeters.

According to reports provided by the deputy coordinator of Zone 006 in the permanent campaign against drug trafficking, established in this capital town, Gregorio Corzo Marin, the activities involving the destruction of marihuana and poppy plantations had declined, partly because of the drought, and also because of the forceful intervention of the sectors combating the planting of drugs.

But the operations being carried out in Cienaga de Silva and Dolores, as well as in Toallana, in the neighboring state of Chihuahua, caused intensive activity to start again; because the discovery of the plantations required the personnel, backed by Mexican Army forces, to redouble its efforts to destroy a greater number of plantations.

He also noted that 59 persons were arrested last month, from whom a total of 6,726 kilograms of marihuana, 560 grams of seed of the same plant, 3,100 kilograms of heroin, one short-barreled weapon and another long-barreled one were confiscated, as were nine vehicles which they were using to ship the drugs.

The total number of plantations fumigated was 213, 18 of which were sprayed manually and 195 by air fumigation. The area covered to attain that goal was 48,000 square meters. Insofar as marihuana was concerned, 123 plantations were destroyed, 8 manually and 115 by fumigation.

Corzo Marin commented that the activities would be intensified again as soon as the good weather returns and flights can be made with ease, to make further reconnaissance tours of the most rugged areas, which the planters select for sowing the seed.

2909

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

LARGE MARIHUANA SEIZURE--DPS and DEA officials arrested the drug trafficker Juan Gaytan Elias with 25 tons of marihuana which he was carrying in a trailer truck. Juan Gaytan had been working under the protection of the zonal commander of the Federal Judicial Police, Manuel Espindola Martinez. The 25 tons of grass were taken through both Laredos, and the arrest took place in Dallas, when the officers discovered the shipment. Also arrested was Luis Valdez, who was identified as the owner of the La Paloma poolroom and tavern, who was with the "czar of Nuevo Laredo drug traffic." It was learned that Juan Gaytan Elias had reverted to his old tricks shortly after having been released in Nuevo Laredo, where he had served time in the La Loma prison, with a sentence for crimes against health. Gaytan Elias operated during the period when Manuel Espindola Martinez was assigned as zonal chief for the Federal Judicial Police, and the latter was protecting him, receiving large sums of money for this activity. It was also said that Juan Gaytan had lived for a long time in Laredo, Texas, where he engaged in his drug trafficking operations. Juan Gaytan Elias' situation is complicated, because he has penal records for crimes against health. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 5 Sep 80 Sec B p 1] 2909

25 MARIHUANA PLANTATIONS DESTROYED--Guadalajara, Jalisco, 26 Aug--The Federal Judicial Police destroyed 25 marihuana plantations on the Tepozol communal farm on the outskirts of Nayarit, and arrested seven farmers who were responsible for growing the drug. High-powered weapons were confiscated from the latter. The grass was grown on an area of 8,000 square meters, and the plants were 1.5 meters tall. Those in custody said that they were growing marihuana at the instruction of Nayarit drug traffickers, who paid them a "good price" for their work. Those under arrest are Vicente Duenas Topete, Pedro Garcia Alvarez, Gilberto Garcia Farias, Camilo Rosas Medina, Ismael Rosas Sanchez, Constantino Cortes Rosas and Moises Gutierrez Caudillo. They all admitted having been engaged in growing marihuana. The Federal Judicial Police reported that the operation was carried out in the steepest area of the mountains. To detect the crops, they used helicopters, in which they flew over the area and discovered the drugs. Among the confiscated weapons were 5,000 high-powered rifles, two heavy caliber shotguns and two 45-caliber pistols. [Text] [H. Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 27 Aug 80 p 5] 2909

PILL TRAFFICKER SENTENCED--The third district judge imposed a 7-year prison sentence and a fine of 10,000 pesos on the drug trafficker Jose Cavazos Castillo, who has been in custody since 3 May of this year, when federal agents captured him at the La Rosita bar in Reynosa, Tamaulipas. The judge found him penally guilty of committing a crime against health in the degree of possession of psychotropic substances. He was tried because of the fact that, on 3 May, the federal police first arrested Pedro Tijerina Lopez, who had in his residence two cardboard boxes containing 21,810 toxic pills of the type known as Qualude 300. Upon being interrogated, he confessed that the psychotropic substances belonged to his friend, Jose Cavazos Castillo, and that he had them in his home because he had rented a room to that individual. Subsequently, Cavazos Castillo was captured, and admitted that he had purchased the psychotropic substances for 100,000 pesos from two persons in Veracruz. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 4 Sep 80 Sec B p 6] 2909

MARIHUANA PLANTATIONS BURNED--Federal Judicial Police forces, backed by members of the Mexican National Army, located and destroyed by fire a total of 15 large marihuana plantations on Los Aguacates hill, near Monterrey, Nuevo Leon. The coordinating office for agencies of the Federal Public Ministry reported that, on 31 August, federal agents began raiding the aforementioned hill area because, with the use of small aircraft and helicopters, they had discovered large cannabis indica plantations in that region. After countless maneuvers, they accrued positive results, requesting the assistance of the Army to destroy the crops. At the order of the coordinator of the campaign against drug trafficking, Carlos Aguilar Garza, marihuana samples were cut, to be attached to the preliminary penal investigation records compiled in connection with those finds. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 6 Sep 80 Sec B p 5] 2909

COLOMBIAN COCAINE TRAFFICKERS CAUGHT--Mexico City, 29 Aug--Two Colombians who attempted to bring into the country a kilogram of pure cocaine which, when adulterated, might command a price of 18 million pesos on the United States black market, were arrested today at the international airport in this city. Vicente Jose Jimenez, aged 42, and Yolanda Bernal Jaramillo, aged 35, were carrying the drug in small plastic bags attached to a false bottom in their luggage, which were readily detected by the federal agents detailed to that air terminal. Jose Jimenez, a lumber dealer using that business to carry drugs to the United States, planned to travel from this city to Nogales, Sonora, by land, and smuggle the drug through a contact to Phoenix, Arizona. The foreigners arrived in Mexico on Aeromexico flight 480, from Bogota, Colombia. While they were putting their luggage on the counter in the inspection room, the federal police noticed their discomfort and extreme nervousness. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO DE PIEDRAS NEGRAS in Spanish 30 Aug 80 p 1] 2909

CSO: 5330

NICARAGUA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA PLANTATION DESTROYED--A marihuana plantation has been destroyed by the Sandinist police in Juigalpa, Chontales Department. Nine persons linked to a counterrevolutionary group were also arrested. The plantation was located in the area of La Esperanza. One quintal of marihuana valued at approximately 300,000 cordobas was seized. The names of those arrested were not disclosed by the police, who said they were being held by the State Security Directorate. [Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Sep 80]

CSO: 5300

LIBERIA

BRIEFS

GUARDS ARREST MARIHUANA SMUGGLERS--Vigilant Liberian border security officers have smashed yet another marihuana smuggling attempt along Liberia's border with Sierra Leone. Those caught are a Liberian and two Ghanaians bringing nearly \$250,000 worth of marihuana into Liberia; and they are now being held for questioning. The men identified as Frederick (Massaley), Rockson Kwasi Duku and (Hardfor Osheri) were reportedly bringing three (? chests) and two suitcases containing the drugs when they were arrested along the (Bor) border checkpoint in Grand Cape Mount country. Last week, Defense Minister Samuel D. Pearson, warned that all marihuana cases would now be handled by the military. He also emphasized at a press briefing that all marihuana smugglers caught within the Liberian borders would be compelled to smoke up their entire consignment however large. [Text] [AB242034 Mcarovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 24 Sep 80]

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ZIMBABWE

CID INCREASES EFFORTS TO CURB DRUG ABUSE

Salisbury THE HERALD in English 23 Sep 80 p 3

[Text]

BULAWAYO.

THE Bulawayo CID drug section is stepping up its efforts to prevent drug abuse.

Recently more arrests have been made, with about 170 Bulawayo people now being arrested each month for drug offences.

"While more is being done to catch such offenders, we regard the prevention of illegal drug-taking as being a most important facet of our work," said a spokesman for the drug section yesterday.

Lecturing schoolchildren on the evils of drug-taking was, he believed, essential to cutting down on drug abuse.

"In speaking to children, what we aim at is warning them what effects various drugs have. It is vitally important for them to know the difference between taking a twist of dagga and an LSD tablet," said the spokesman.

The drug section also holds lectures for adults, with the

accent on such sessions being on the symptoms of drug-takers.

"We aim to show adults what signs they would be able to see if their children started taking drugs."

In Bulawayo the majority of drug-takers smoke dagga, but there have been cases of "harder" drugs being stolen or fraudulently obtained by prescription, said the spokesman.

However, it was possible that now that Zimbabwe was part of the international community, "hard" drugs would start to come into the country.

But it is not just incoming drugs which are of concern to the police—there is a ready export market for the "high-quality" Zimbabwean dagga.

A 15c twist can sell for about £1, with a kg of dagga bringing in £5 000, he said.

Recently two Bulawayo men were arrested in Zurich with 29 kg of dagga. Zimbabwean dagga has been known to be smuggled to Belgium, Britain, France and Switzerland.

CSO: 5300

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

APPETITE SUPPRESSION PRODUCT X-112 ABUSED AS DRUG

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 8 Sep 80 pp 54-56

[Text] The appetite suppressant X-112 is a fashionable drug: fixers use it as a backup drug, young people as a way into the drug scene.

Police officials watching 22-year old Werner S. during a raid in Singen saw the usual sight: "Glazed eyes," "piercing gaze," like a fixer. What was unusual was the way the junky, known city-wide, reacted to the police intervention. "He was babbling incessantly," yelling and punching at everyone within reach; then he collapsed.

A chemotoxicological blood and urine analysis revealed the reason for the obstreperous behavior of the normally peaceful fixer. Werner S. had not injected heroin, but drops of the appetite suppressant X-112.

Drug experts elsewhere have already noted unpleasant consequences from the use of X-112. In Berlin a 16-year old was treated in the intensive care unit after collapsing. He had been drinking as much as half a bottle of the pharmaceutical drug.

In Ulm two girls watched passively as their room burned down. They were incapable of extinguishing a candle that had fallen over. Weeks of consuming X-112 had created a state of delirium, in which the burning room was a flower covered field. In Solingen a 17-year old died after an overdose of the weight-loss drug.

Addicts on the German scene have discovered new stuff: X-112, available for 15 years in liquid or tablet form, has recently become a new stimulant for the fixers, the successor to the high-producing pain killers and uppers that have been withdrawn from the market or made subject to the narcotics law. At high school student parties and at fixers' gatherings the "new wave of fashion" is spreading like an epidemic, according to Tuebingen doctor of legal medicine Hans Joachim Mallach. From the southwest to Hamburg and Berlin abuse of the drug is spreading across the country,

according to the observations of police and hospital doctors. "It's faster than the drums in the bush" (Mallach).

Whenever the heroin supply on the drug scene is held up or when money for the stuff is short, "X-112 is not as good as a good shot," as one fixer in Darmstadt admits, "but better than a bad one." Narcotics agent Fried Mander in Ulm thinks that X-112 is "the perfect backup drug" for heroin addicts. In the meantime, as narcotics officials discovered, the slimming liquid is now considered an addictive drug by young people. Fourteen to 17-year olds mix 25 milliliters, half a bottle, in a soft drink and feel as one high school student from Konstanz described it, "quite different": optimistic, content, excited.

More effective, but also more dangerous than a mixture like this is injection. The effect begins immediately after injection and lasts for hours. "The effect of X-112," says Dr Christian Piper from Darmstadt, "is like a drug"--anyone taking it, gets high first and then becomes dependent.

And often enough ill. Heart attacks and liver disorders are not rare, and occasionally the suppressant turns against the user: all the way from full-fledged "anxiety psychoses" to "dramatic collapse," as Piper reports. The Federal Health Agency (BGA) in Berlin has known for years that the bottled slenderizer and its capsule form (manufacturer's ad: "Lose pounds fast") solves problems other than those of weight. But until July the preparation was freely available and registered with the BGA without any notice concerning side-effects. Officials in Berlin acted only after police and doctors had sounded the alarm.

However, only X-112 in liquid form was made dispensable by prescription only, the capsules can still be dispensed freely by druggists. "Stupidity," is Mallach's angry reaction, because the outside coating of the capsules has only to be scraped off and the stuff dissolved--"then into the needle and squeeze."

X-112 addicts continue to have access to the drops they crave in spite of the prescription rule. Physicians, often out of ignorance, prescribe the anti-weight gain drug freely to anyone who is just a bit fat, and "even in large quantities," as one Frankfurt druggist claims.

So the drug finds its way onto the drug scene mostly by legal paths: prescribed the doctor, handed in at the pharmacy, X-112 becomes a legal ticket for a trip. Purchase, consumption and passing on are not punishable, and police and public prosecutors are helpless against even the "from a medical point of view extremely dangerous practice of intravenous injection (Mallach). It is even worse that X-112 users persuade themselves that they are "clean" and could abstain from the synthetic narcotic. Experts on opiates, like Tuebingen drug doctor Knut-Ingomar Pedal, have often observed that after just a few weeks the slenderizer is "experienced physically as

a narcotic." When the police tracked down a group of supposed heroin addicts in Dornbach, a small rural community in Swabia, they turned out to be young people getting high on the appetite suppressant, nine girls and boys between the ages of 14 and 18.

That is not enough for the Federal Health Agency. "To put X-112 on the proscribed list," said Peter Schoenhoefer of the BGA regretfully, "we have to have data on abuse.

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CSO: 5300

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ITALY

LEBANESE ARRESTED FOR HEROIN SMUGGLING

Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 21 Aug 80 p 10

[Text] The unlucky drug "wholesaler" wandered for a week in vain without finding a single pusher. Having given up, he was ready to go back home when he was caught. The "stuff" was worth over 1 billion lire and was enclosed in a special container that had a suitable peep-hole to evaluate the merchandise.

Even heroin pushers take a vacation in August. Being unaware of this fact a trafficker arrived from Lebanon to market a very valuable lot: the purest "stuff," first quality, with a retail value of over 1 billion lire. For a week he combed Milan succeeding only in being tracked down by agents of the narcotics squad who yesterday stopped him when, having given up, he was on the point of going back home.

Francois Saba, a Lebanese, 32, arrived by airplane in the city on 8 August from Beirut. He was carrying, carefully hidden in a suitcase, two small plastic bags sealed with adhesive tape containing 1 kilogram and 2 hundred grams of refined Lebanese heroin, 95 percent pure. It had not been prepared by the usual method used for the Lebanese brand of the deadly drug, the Thai or Turkish method, much more precise, was followed instead. In other words, it was intended for the connoisseur.

Even the packaging matched the product: the two small cellophane bags were in turn enclosed in a plastic container, elegant but above all practical. A small window in the container allowed the customers to inspect and judge the quality of the merchandise without having to expose unduly the "hot" samples to indiscreet eyes. Sometimes one cannot be too careful. The Lebanese merchant had adhered to rules of the strictest security. He never stayed more than a few days at the same hotel and in little more than a week he had moved several times, always registering under the customary false names.

It is possible that his stay in our city had been planned for a shorter period of time. The difficulty of finding more important pushers who

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could appreciate and above all buy the expensive merchandise forced Saba to extend his stay. And it was this forced hunting for a buyer that caused his downfall.

When the Lebanese took a room in a hotel at Porta Venezia a few days ago, the police had already been warned of his presence and of the purpose of his "commercial mission." His last precautions were for naught. His new false identification, that of Fouad Alif Karame, was now useless. Useless too was his careful approach to potential buyers. Useless was the "look-quick" container. The net had already been cast. The agents had methodically followed him through all his exhausting pilgrimage in search of the golden pusher. A pusher that had gotten away because he had gone off to enjoy the leisure he had earned with his own "hard work."

Francois Saba succeeded in hooking only small or medium-sized fish who were perhaps willing to make one deal that allowed them to earn a slice of the market, but who were not in a position to buy wholesale, just like that. All dealings ended inevitably when the clients withdrew. It is also possible that the fear existed that this could be one of those much-talked-about August vacation swindles. The exceptional quality itself in a type of heroin that is normally not particularly well valued might have aroused suspicion in more than one retailer.

So, after 12 days of this useless odyssey, the Lebanese packed his bags, replaced the package among children's clothes that he carried to create perhaps the impression of a family man, and called a taxi. He asked to be taken to Linate. But there, opening the door for him, were the narcotics agents. The suitcases were emptied and the heroin was seized.

In his pocket Saba had a round-trip ticket for Beirut and another airplane ticket for a city in northern Europe. That ticket was probably for a mission that came to nothing after his failure in Milan and which he put off for another time when business got better. And finally, in his wallet, the agents found about 1,000 dollars in cash.

Handcuffed, the trafficker was taken to police headquarters. There, during the initial interrogation, he admitted to his activities. According to his own statement, he had also been arrested some years ago by the Austrian police after having been stopped with a shipment of "stuff," a 48-kilogram package of hashish.

After an initial examination the heroin seized from the Lebanese was sent to Rome to be analyzed with the most sophisticated equipment at the central laboratories of the technical police department.

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Francois Saba, the arrested trafficker, and (right) the small bags of heroin.

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ITALY

TWO HEROIN ARRESTS IN MILAN

Heroin Pusher Seized

Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 20 Aug 80 p 11

[Text] The tip had been given to the narcotics division of police headquarters in extremely general terms: no names, even vague with regard to the places usually frequented by the pusher. The only thing certain was that drugs were concerned, probably heroin.

It was necessary to make a trip of a few kilometers outside the city, according to the tip, and drive up and down a stretch of via Paullese and have a look at some of the public places, especially the bars along the Adda River and Muzza Canal; in one of these places someone was selling drugs and, with any luck at all, it would be possible to put handcuffs on that person.

Two antidrug patrols were assigned to the investigation, directed by Marshals Brignoli and Masilla. It happened yesterday afternoon. A meticulous, painstaking operation of ferreting out those involved: highly tedious, many useless stops, a task filled with boredom, but at least not a task causing perspiration.

At 1730 hours [the search ended] in a bar which is not being named; suffice it to know that its doors open onto the Muzza. The members of the two patrols had already been on the spot for a few minutes and had plunked themselves down in front of the counter; there were a few unknown and harmless customers. The police were ready to continue driving around; no use hanging around there; the day was still far from over; they would search, investigate elsewhere. And suddenly, in the courtyard behind the bar a car drove up, a black Renault.

Behind the steering wheel was an ordinary-looking fellow; he got out; the police detected a certain cautious air about him; they asked to see his papers and decided to inspect the automobile. In the motor well, hidden under the spare wheel, there was a little packet wrapped in a plastic protector. It contained 100 grams of number 4 pure heroin.

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Gian Mario Alchiere Between Two Agents at
Police Headquarters

That is how the police arrested Gian Mario Alchiere, 31 years old, born and residing in Vaiano Cremasco, via della Liberazione 7/A, drafting being his declared profession. Married to a young woman of Lebanese origin. Hence, the suspicion that the confiscated heroin was of Lebanese origin.

Dealer Arrested Second Time

Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 20 Aug 80 p 11

[Text] From a large and well-equipped clandestine laboratory for converting basic morphine into heroin to small sidewalk sales. Even pushers can meet with hard times. "Hard times" so to speak, for the sale of the drug, even handled on a retail basis and without the benefit of a converting and production "plant," can be enormously remunerative.

This is borne out by the arrest the police made the other afternoon of Pierluigi Ripamonti, 34 years old, residing at 9 via Pergolesi. This man, who had already been arrested in 1975 as the head of an apartment-laboratory on via Soldati in which the police had discovered equipment for the manufacture of narcotics and had seized drugs valued at about 800 million lire, was overtaken in the gardens of via Vittorio Veneto hidden behind a parked car and preparing three packets of heroin.

The young man had 10 million lire in his pocket, which the investigators surmise came from the sale of many doses of drugs to addicts of that area. Pierluigi Ripamonti had already got himself talked about several times. The first time, as mentioned, in 1975 when he was arrested upon discovery

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of the laboratory. At that time the young man was known only as a model employee, owner of a small and unpretentious apartment on via Soldati. The arrest of two drug pushers enabled the police to identify Ripamonti and aroused their suspicions as to what was going on at his home.



Pierluigi Ripamonti in a Previous Arrest

The officers had then raided the lodgings and arrested a "gorilla" guard, whose duty it was to watch over the hideout, and two addicts who were just getting over the effects of a heroin "trip." Upon thoroughly searching the apartment, the police had found a safe behind a picture. The safe contained 0.5 kg of pure heroin and a million lire in cash. The officers were about to complete their inspection when one of them inadvertently touched an antique mirror and triggered a cleverly disguised mechanism. A secret door opened in front of the astounded policemen. Behind the mirror was a genuine laboratory. The "model employee" had thus ended up in prison, charged with being one of the biggest heroin traffickers in Southern Italy.

Five years later, Pierluigi Ripamonti has literally ended up in the middle of a street, forced to prepare drug doses to be sold in public places.

When a police squad saw him on via Vittorio Veneto the other day at about 1630, Pierluigi Ripamonti tried to escape, but the officers chased him and headed him off. This is how they discovered the three doses of heroin he was preparing and the 10 million lire.

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ITALY

TWO YOUTHS ARRESTED, HEROIN SEIZED

Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 30 Aug 80 p 12

[Text] The "safe" for the heroin was a basket of artificial flowers. It took several hours to discover it but in the end the hunt for the mysterious hiding place was successful and the police were able to arrest two youths, Alessandro Tonoli, 26, and Ornella Bose, 24, for drug pushing.

The activities of the couple--residing at Via Guido Ucelli di Nemi 58, at Ponte Lambro--had been under observation by the police for several days. The suspicion that they might be pushing drugs in one of the areas where the scourge of drugs has recently increased had become very strong. Hence, the decision to send the narcotics squad of the police headquarters to put a stop to the illegal activities.

The "trap" was to have sprung at midnight last Thursday. A crew of the Monforte flying squad lay in wait near the couple's place of residence and went into action when Alessandro and Ornella were leaving home for what, presumably, was to have been one of their "night walks" to deliver the merchandise. However, either because of their "sixth sense" or because they had been warned by a secret signal, nothing compromising was found in their possession. What to do?

A request was radioed to headquarters for the intervention of the warrant officer Paggini of the flying squad to check the house of the suspects. The search showed immediately that the "track" was not incorrect. Evidence of pushing was there: two small scales and several plastic envelopes to prepare the narcotics. However, the drugs were missing.

The "combing" of the agents did not neglect anything: closets, kitchen drawers, mattresses. Nothing. There weren't even little envelopes with doses glued between the pages of books and magazines. Finally, the cops' attention was caught by a vase with artificial flowers from which the fake soil had been removed. The container was turned upside-down and a small bag appeared containing 35 grams of the white powder. Bidding goodbye to trips into artificial paradise, the couple went on a much sadder trip: to San Vittore.

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ITALY

BRIEFS

HEROIN ARREST IN BOLZANO--Bolzano--A young drug addict was arrested by the police for possession and pushing of drugs. Fausto Lunghini, 26, from Bolzano, suffering from an incurable disease, was found in possession of 20 small heroin envelopes of 1 gram each, 650,000 lire in cash, the equivalent of 4 million lire in U.S. dollar travellers checks, and a passport visaed for Nepal, India, Malaysia and Thailand. The youth, who was questioned by the acting district attorney, will have to justify the possession of the large amount of heroin that was confiscated from him. Fausto Lunghini has recently undergone a delicate operation in his lower abdomen for the removal of a tumor. His life therefore is hanging on a thread. To survive, he has to receive cobalt therapy periodically; as he had to stay for several days at a specialized hospital in Trentino he had obtained the sufficient amount of heroin that he was planning to use during the long stay in the hospital. [Text] [Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 21 Aug 80 p 2] 9674

COCAINE FOUND IN PRISON--Yesterday at dawn San Vittore jail underwent a rigid inspection. A number of carabinieri patrols, police agents and guards combed the wards inspecting every square inch of the cells, work shops and other places frequented by the inmates. The "job" took 3 hours: from 0600 to 0900. The enforcement agents found and seized some jack-knives, some flattened and sharpened spoons ready to be used as cutting weapons, and even small amounts of drugs: apparently small cocaine doses for personal use. A complete report on how the operation was conducted and on what was seized will be forwarded to the court for taking legal action against the possessors of the confiscated material. The combing operation was conducted without warning by order of the court to keep the inmates--through the usual "tom tom" signals from jail--from becoming aware of the presence in San Vittore of the enforcement agents. It was, however, described as a "routine combing operation," that is, the cells were searched as if it were a normal checking and preventive measure, instead of a consequence of "rumors" about imminent possible escapes or riots. The confiscation of jack-knives and flattened, filed and sharpened spoons gives hope that possible future brawls among inmates that unfortunately follow each other rather frequently within the walls of Piazza Filangeri may have a less tragic outcome. In this regard suffice it to remember that two prisoners have already been slain in the past months at the fifth and sixth wards of the jail in "rustic duels" that

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take place during recreation periods. The murderers remain unpunished thanks to the code of silence among prisoners. Trying to throw some light on the murder of a Colombian pickpocket on 16 May, the court sent 39 prisoners for trial who were present at the fight; at the trial there were 12 convictions for aiding and abetting. [Text] [Milan CORBIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 21 Aug 80 p 9] 9674

DRUG ADDICTS IN MILITARY--Rome--In 1977 a total of 338 cases of drug addiction were verified among military men, 60 of whom were drafted recruits and 278 regular army personnel who had joined a short time before. A total of 161 had used heroin; 2 morphine; 1 LSD; 1 hashish; and 173 other drugs. Of all these drug addicts eight were furloughed on sick leave, and 330 were rehabilitated. In 1978 a total of 733 cases were discovered and in 1979--as of this date--there have been almost 1,345. Of the latter, 157 cases involved drafted recruits and among the other 1,188 who had recently joined 560 were discovered during the first month of service. These figures were supplied by Defense Minister Lagorio in answer to a query. Mr Lagorio stated, among other things, that to keep drug addicts from becoming involved in the performance of delicate tasks, the initial precaution should be to keep them from entering the military organization. [Text] [Rome L'UNITA in Italian 29 Aug 80 p 5] 9674

HEROIN DEALER ARRESTED--Milan--A notorious international drug trafficker was arrested by the police in Milan; he was in possession of 1.2 kg of 95 percent pure heroin valued (at retail and current market prices) at more than 1 billion lire. The individual arrested is a Lebanese, Francois Saba, 32 years old, seized at Linate airport by the police who had been pursuing him for several days. News of Saba's arrival in Milan carrying a large quantity of heroin had spread rapidly in the Lombard capital in trafficker circles but, obviously, also in police circles. The Lebanese must have suspected something and tried to leave Milan, a locality which had become difficult for him. At the airport the police found the heroin in one of the drug trafficker's suitcases: the "stuff" was contained in two plastic bags preserved in two plaster cases with a tiny transparent window; the purpose of the window was to show potential buyers the heroin without having to disturb the package. [Text] [Rome L'UNITA in Italian 21 Aug 80 p 5] 8568

HEROIN COURIER ARRESTED--Another blow to the drug racket. Yesterday morning an organization of traffickers based in Terni was discovered by the flying squad after the arrest of one of its "couriers," Michele Santini, 23 years of age. The youth, a literature student with no previous criminal record, was arrested near Termini Station with a hectogram of the purest heroin hidden on his person and valued at 50 million lire. He had obtained the drug in Thailand where he has been sent by the organization at his own expense to make the purchase. According to our information, upon arriving at Fiumicino from the Far East, Michele Santini was to have met an accomplice at the airport. But the latter, whose name is known to the police but is not being revealed, did not show up. He had recently been arrested on other charges in Terni where he resides. After

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waiting a long time, Santini decided to go into town. Arriving in the vicinity of the station, he gave himself a strong injection of heroin in the men's room of a bar. Leaving the bar, he began to stagger and was observed by guards of the Castro Pretorio barracks. The guards notified the flying squad and the youth was arrested. During the interrogation Dr Nash, who had previously directed Terni's Flying squad and had concerned himself with the drug traffic in the Umbrian city, began to shed light on the racket in which Santini's accomplice is considered one of the principal organizers. The flying squad is now trying to reconstruct the mosaic of the gang which for some time has been regularly sending its own couriers to Thailand. [Text] [Rome L'UNITA in Italian 21 Aug 80 p 8] 8568

HEROIN SEIZED FROM SALVADORAN--Milan--A San Salvador citizen was arrested in Milan yesterday for possessing drugs to be sold. The woman had concealed a packet containing 8 grams of heroin in her clothing. The drug was discovered when Speranza Perez, the woman arrested, was rushed to the polyclinic upon suddenly becoming ill. After the initial discovery, the case was pursued further and the police found an additional 10 grams of heroin. [Text] [Rome L'UNITA in Italian 15 Aug 80 p 5] 8568

HEROIN SEIZED-La Spezia--Big hit by customs officers in La Spezia. Yesterday the officers, with the help of a dog called Vella, found in a Dutch Mercedes coming from Latakia, Syria, 10 kilograms of heroin valued at over 10 billion lire. The "stuff" was hidden in a hollow space of the car body, which was completely disassembled by the customs. Two Iranians, Javan Shavroukh, 39, and Alhai Amir Khoso, 29, both from Tehran, were arrested. The two men had come yesterday to the port at about 1400 to take away the Mercedes which they were to drive to Milan. The automobile had arrived in a ferryboat from the Syrian port within the last few days. Many arrests were carried out yesterday by the drug enforcement agents in several Italian cities. In Milan Alessandro Tonoli, 24, and Ornella Bose, 26, were handcuffed in their apartment where 35 grams of heroin were found hidden in a vase next to small scales and various small envelopes. Also in Milan Mario Boldoni, 22, was arrested for possession of 1 kilogram of hashish, and in Vieste, on the Gargano coast, five pushers were arrested and 1 kilogram of hashish and marihuana was seized from them. And finally, in Citta di Castello, three Nigerians were arrested by the flying squad for possession of a mild drug (a little more than 2 hectograms). [Text] [Rome L'UNITA in Italian 30 Aug 80 p 5] 9674

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NETHERLANDS

BRIEFS

'GREY WOLVES' TRADE IN HEROIN--The extreme rightist Turkish movement, the Grey Wolves, appears to be involved in organizing and financing heroin shipments from Turkey to the Netherlands. Yesterday two members of this party, S. Y. (40), and S. P. (29), the latter being chairman of the Grey Wolves in Maassluis, were accused in a Rotterdam court of dealing in heroin. The public prosecutor, D. J. Copper, demanded that both be sentenced to 6 years in prison. A spokesman of the Rotterdam police confirmed that it had suspected strongly for some time that the Grey Wolves financed their organization in the Netherlands by dealing in heroin. The two accused Turks met regularly at meetings of this organization. S. Y. admits that he was a middleman in the sale of heroin. He received two packages of the stuff from two men in the Hague who are the big bosses according to him and whose names he revealed to the police. These two men had also instructed him to arrange heroin smuggling with a Turkish married couple I. from Oss. This couple was caught near the Bulgarian-Yugoslav border with 5 kilos of heroin found in their gasoline tank. In court it appeared that S. Y. and S. P. had prepared the smuggling affair and that they followed the car with the contraband. This put the police on their tracks. [Text] Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 22 Aug 80 p 2] 10319

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